



City and County of San Francisco

Commission on the Status of Women

Mayor London N. Breed

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

5:00 pm

San Francisco City Hall, Room 408

Roster:

President Dr. Shokooh Miry

Vice President Dr. Raveena Rihal

Commissioner Sophia Andary

Commissioner Sharon Chung (Excused)

Commissioner Dr. Anne Moses

Commissioner Ani Rivera

Commissioner Breanna Zwart (Late – 5:28pm)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm. Opening remarks by President Shokooh Miry. Ms. Lauren Battung performed roll call, confirmed 5 of 7 Commissioners present (quorum). Ms. Battung read the land acknowledgement.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of April 26, 2023 regular commission meeting minutes.

No Commissioner comment.

No public comment.

(Roll Call Vote) Moses, Rihal – 5 ayes, 0 nays – Unanimous

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Kimberly Ellis discussed grant programs; core service area activities; meetings involving City leaders, agencies, and stakeholders; Department staff; past/upcoming events; and Department operations.

Commissioner Comment:

President Miry asked what commissioners can do to support the event commemorating the one-year anniversary of the Dobbs decision.

Director Ellis invited commissioners to the Dobbs event.

No public comment.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATH REVIEW TEAM'S PILOT REPORT

Department staff presented an overview of the Domestic Violence Death Review Team Pilot and Report, which examines domestic violence-related fatalities to strengthen system policies and procedures and identify prevention strategies to reduce future incidents of domestic violence-related injuries and deaths.

Commissioner Zwart arrived at 5:28pm

Commissioner Comment:

Vice President Rihal asked whether specific officers were interviewed.

Mr. Hartwick stated that transcripts were found but no interviews were allowed.

President Miry asked about the existence of advocates for domestic violence victims.

Mr. Hartwick spoke to the a pilot project where domestic violence experts went on domestic violence calls with SFPD. Pilot was successful but there was no ongoing funding.

President Miry asked about details of the report regarding the behavior of a responding officer. Will there be any kind of review of professional conduct?

Mr. Hartwick responded that he is unsure as to whether or not there will be ongoing review, but that there is a culture that was discussed in meetings.

President Miry noted that the fact that an officer smoked a cigarette with the assailant when responding to a domestic violence call.

Director Ellis noted that the Department is more than happy to pose the question to SFPD leadership about the incident.

Commissioner Moses asked what the typical timeline of a domestic violence death review report is.

Mr. Hartwick spoke to delays due to COVID and the ongoing civil liability.

Commissioner Moses asked how many deaths a year there have been from DV in San Francisco.

Mr. Hartwick spoke to a spike in the cases of domestic violence related deaths in San Francisco over the past couple of years.

Commissioner Moses asked why the City does not conduct a review for every case.

Mr. Hartwick spoke to a limiting factor was the worry of ongoing civil liability.

Commissioner Rivera asked what we are doing with the recommendations since the case is from so long ago.

Mr. Hartwick responded that the recommendations come with a built-in understanding that reports to the Family Violence Council include status updates on the recommendations since the case.

Commissioner Andary asked where the recommendations for training and accountability for officers are.

Director Ellis spoke to the fact that recommendations are constantly made by DOSW and other departments, but the power to implement recommendations lies with SFPD and responding departments. Encouraged commissioners to speak to Police Commissioners and SFPD leadership about the realities of domestic violence deaths in San Francisco and the ways in which the departments are responding to these recommendations. Underscored the importance of modernizing the City and County so that technology at our disposal creates healthier and safer environments for survivors of domestic violence.

President Miry asked who oversaw the outdated systems.
Mr. Hartwick responded it is SFPD.

Commissioner Andary commented about the failure of the responding officers to handle the situation and called for accountability.

President Miry thanked Mr. Hartwick for his work helping to create and publish this report.

No public comment.

B. Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Panel on MENTAL HEALTH

Panel discussion moderated by Lauren Battung, the Department's Executive Management Assistant, to bring awareness to mental health challenges and services within AANHPI communities in San Francisco, as well as discuss opportunities for collaboration with the Commission and Department.

Commissioner Comment:

Commissioner Andary asked about RAMS services specific to Middle Eastern/North African populations.

Ms. Ah Soon spoke to a future collaborations with Middle Eastern serving CBOs
Commissioner Andary asked about cultural competency mental health trainings for doctors.

Ms. Yu-Lee responded that there are trainings that focus on these topics at various hospitals and clinics in the area.

Ms. Oo spoke to the trainings that her organizations have put on for UCSF medical students.

Commissioner Rivera expressed her thanks and asked how the Commissioners can support the work being done. Commented on the significance of cultural competence in mental health services being provided by the panelists.

Public Comment:

Esther Leong - Works with API Legal Outreach. Expressed her support for the panelists and the

importance of mental health and cultural competency in their work. Notes the increased demand and need for mental health services.

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

Commissioner Rivera commemorated the loss of Tina Turner with a quote from the performer.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:50pm